IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown below.

Please replace the paragraph beginning with line 6 at page 39 with the following re-written paragraph:

--Figure 10 is a block diagram depicting the In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, a computer system 1000 and computer usable medium 1000m enables the performance of a computer implemented process for setting an optimal preference policy for an auction. With reference to Figure 10, computer system 1000 includes a bus 1001 for communicating information, a central processor 1050 coupled with the bus 1001 for processing information and instructions, and a memory unit 1010 (e.g., random access memory and/or read only memory) and a data storage system 1015 coupled with the bus 1001 for storing information and instructions. Data storage system 1015 may be any magnetic and/or optical disc and drive/reader, or any other data storage device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning with line 15 at page 42 with the following re-written paragraph:

--Figure 12 illustrates the steps in a process 120 for setting an optimal preference policy for an auction market, in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. At step 121 of process 120, characteristics of the market are selected. Step 121 is described above in detail in process 40 of Figure 4. At step 122, a relevant bidding model is selected. Step 122 is described above in detail in process 50 of Figure 5. At step 123, a structure of said market is estimated. Step 123 is described above in detail in process 60 of Figure 6. At step 124, a bidding behavior is predicted. Step 124 is described above in detail in process 70 of Figure 7. At step 125, a first outcome of the market is predicted. Step 125 is

described above in detail in process 80 of Figure 8. At step 126, the first outcome

of the market is evaluated. Step 126 is described above in detail in process 90 of

Figure 9.--